



USING THE API AND TI INDEXES FOR SELECTION

Nearly all breed associations have adopted Index EPDs over the past 5 or 6 years to help simplify the selection process and to encourage presenting EPDs in terms of dollars of profit instead of having to interpret multiple EPDs expressed in pounds or units. Now you can use the index EPD values to predict profit differences between bulls which hopefully you will agree is the goal of seedstock selection.

For Simmental and Simmental Compositated seedstock, there are just two, dollar value index EPDs available. **The All Purpose Index or API**, is just that, all purpose. **If you plan to keep a bull's daughters back in the herd as replacements, you should consider using the API as a tool to improve the profitability of your herd.** Traits such as Stayability, Calving Ease, Maternal Calving Ease and Marbling are large components of this index but all traits are included based on their relative profitability. On the other hand, **if you plan to sell all the progeny of your selected bulls in a terminal arrangement, the Terminal Index or TI is your best tool to improve profitability.** The TI is heavily affected logically by growth and carcass traits, but still includes calving ease to a lesser degree.

To compare two sires based on API, the dollar values listed are a prediction of the difference in value per cow exposed over a sire's lifetime. This includes his long term impact upon the profitability of your herd because of his retained daughters in addition to the value of his calves sold.

Example:

Bull A API = \$120

Bull B API = \$100

Expect bull A to be enhance profit by around \$20 for every cow he breeds in his lifetime compared to bull B. So if Bull A he mates 25 cows per year for 4 years, you might expect him to be worth nearly \$2000.00 more than Bull B. (25 x 4 = 100 calves 100 x \$20 = +\$2000.00)

Use API and TI to help simplify selection decisions. Then use the individual EPDs and personal preferences to determine value and ultimately choose the seedstock that bring the most profitability potential to your operation.